Appl. No. 10/700,072 Response dated May 20, 2004 Response to Office Action of May 14, 2004

REMARKS

This is in response to the <u>Office Action</u> mailed May 14, 2004. The <u>Office Action</u> rejected Applicants' Claims 21-39 under non-statutory obvious-type double patenting.

Applicants do not agree that Claims 21-39 are obvious over the claims of U.S. Pat. No. 6,671,615. However, in order to expedite prosecution and allowance of the present application, a terminal disclaimer and associated fee are submitted herewith. Accordingly, Applicants request that the rejection of Claims 21-39 be withdrawn.

Information Disclosure Statements

Applicants have filed a second information disclosure statement on May 19, 2004. A courtesy copy of the second information disclosure statement is attached. (Exhibit 1). Additionally, Applicants filed an information disclosure statement on November 3, 2003 accompanying the filing of the present application. (Exhibit 2). A copy of form PTO-1449 initialed by the Examiner was not returned to Applicants with the Office Action dated May 14, 2004. Applicants request the Examiner to indicate that the reference submitted with the information disclosure statements filed on November 3, 2003 and May 19, 2004 were considered by including the Examiner's initials next to the reference. For the convenience of the Examiner, copies of the form PTO 1449 are included with this response.

Conclusion

With the present response, all the issues in the Office Action mailed May 14, 2004 have been addressed. Applicants submit that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance. If any issues remain, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted.

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